

(a) *Ground station transmitters.* The effective radiated power of ground stations must not exceed 100 Watts and must not be less than 50 Watts, except as provided in § 22.811.

(b) *Airborne mobile transmitters.* The transmitter power output of airborne mobile transmitters must not exceed 25 Watts and must not be less than 4 Watts.

#### **§ 22.811 Idle tone.**

Whenever a ground station transmitter authorized to transmit on any of the communications channels listed in § 22.805 is available for service but is not providing service, a modulated signal must be continuously transmitted on the communication channel assigned to that transmitter. While this modulated signal is transmitted, the transmitter power must be between 10 and 20 dB lower than the normal transmitting power.

#### **§ 22.813 Technical channel pair assignment criteria.**

The rules in this section establish technical assignment criteria for the channel pairs listed in § 22.805. These criteria are intended to provide substantial service volumes over areas that have significant local and regional general aviation activity, while maintaining the continuous nationwide in-route coverage of the original geographical layout.

(a) *Distance separation for co-channel ground stations.* The FCC may grant an application requesting assignment of a communication channel pair to a proposed ground transmitter only if the proposed antenna location is at least 800 kilometers (497 miles) from the antenna location of the nearest co-channel ground transmitter in the United States, its territories and possessions; and 1000 kilometers (621 miles) from the antenna location of the nearest co-channel ground transmitter in Canada.

(b) *Dispersion.* The FCC may grant an application requesting assignment of a communication channel pair to a proposed ground transmitter only if there are no more than five different communication channel pairs already assigned to ground transmitters with antenna locations within a 320 kilometer (199

mile) radius of the proposed antenna location.

#### **§ 22.815 Construction period for general aviation ground stations.**

The construction period (see § 22.142) for general aviation ground stations is 12 months.

#### **§ 22.817 Additional channel policies.**

The rules in this section govern the processing of applications for authority to operate a ground station transmitter on any ground station communication channel listed in § 22.805 when the applicant has applied or been granted an authorization for other ground station communication channels in the same area. The general policy of the FCC is to assign one ground station communication channel in an area to a carrier per application cycle, up to a maximum of six ground station communication channels per area. That is, a carrier must apply for one ground station communication channel, receive the authorization, construct the station, and notify the FCC of commencement of service before applying for an additional ground station communication channel in that area.

(a) *Air-ground transmitters in same area.* Any transmitter on any of the ground station channels listed in § 22.805 is considered to be in the same area as another transmitter on any ground station channel listed in § 22.805 if it is located less than 350 kilometers (217 miles) from that transmitter.

(b) *Initial channel.* The FCC will not assign more than one ground station communication channel for new ground stations. Ground stations are considered to be new if there are no authorized ground station transmitters on any channel listed in § 22.805 controlled by the applicant in the same area.

(c) *Additional channel.* Applications for ground transmitters to be located in the same area as an authorized ground station controlled by the applicant, but to operate on a different ground station communication channel, are considered as requesting an additional channel for the authorized station.

(d) *Amendment of pending application.* If the FCC receives and accepts for filing an application for a ground station